

VAN WYCK'S LETTER ACCEPANCE.

He Stands for Home Rule,
Dollar Gas and More
Schools.

AGAINST THE RAINES LAW

Approves a Generous but
Well-Guarded Expenditure
for Improvements.

WANTS MORE CYCLE PATHS

Declares for an Eight-Hour Day
at Full Wages for Mu-
nicipal Work.

PLAIN TALK ABOUT TRUSTS.

The Candidate Makes a Plea for a
Government of Responsi-
bility, Not of a
Faction.

Robert A. Van Wyck, Democratic nominee for Mayor of Greater New York, made public last night his formal letter of acceptance, which was addressed to the nomination committee appointed by the Democratic City Convention.

The letter follows:

Hon. Almet F. Jenks, chairman: John C. Sheehan, Bernard J. York, Dr. John L. Fenn, James McCartney and John H. Surphise, committee.

Centlemen: In response to your official notification of the action of the Democratic City Convention in selecting me as its candidate for the office of Mayor of Greater New York, I now formally accept the nomination.

The duty before the first Mayor of the City of New York, as it is to be the beginning of the coming year, is of a magnitude too vast to be undertaken without realizing that any man of mind enough to comprehend the problems it involves. While it is to be the second city in the world in population, it is to be at the very outset, the first city far the first—in point of the strictly municipal powers to be exercised by its local government.

To approach the task in any other spirit than that of American liberty, coupled with a realizing sense of the competition character of the population to be served, would, in my judgment, be to err fundamentally.

The temper of mind which benefits the citizen or the inhabitant of towns in which there are one type of government to deal with is little fitted for the work before me.

All events, should the people repose their confidence in me, I will endeavor to act with that largeness of view which considers the rights of every man, regardless of race, creed or color.

A successful administration of the affairs of this municipality must depend, in great measure, upon the honesty and efficiency of the officials appointed by the Mayor. In this regard I shall, if elected, exercise the greatest care to provide, in the most perfect discharge of public duty that is possible under such conditions as have imposed upon us the factions, discordant and demoralizing administration from the misdeeds and misadventures of which all elements of our citizenship have suffered.

What is here said of the present city of New York applies, I am persuaded, to considerable measure, to Brooklyn. There, also, the taxpayer has had reason for serious complaint. Within the past four years taxes have been heavily increased, the city has been heavily indebted, and the debt has not only been carried up to the Constitutional limit, but has been positively swollen to the extent of over ten millions of dollars.

To permit a continuance of the disregard thus shown for the ability of property to contribute to the support of the government would obviously be to give to confiscation a practical sanction. The metropolis is not to be made prosperous by any policy which involves the ruin of the investor in real estate.

The results here exhibited furnish one of the most costly object lessons ever taught a community as to the wasteful character of a Government permitted to whirl ineffectually with the whims of its several officials, as contrasted with the economy enforced by the organized vigilance and definite policy of responsible Government controlling all the expenditures of its subordinate departments.

Disregard of People's Rights.

Coupled with the extravagance and waste against which our citizens have protested, there has been an utter disregard of the rights and convenience of the people. The most serious example of which is to be found in the present shocking condition of our streets and thoroughfares.

There can be no justification for such a complete surrender of our road-back to corruption, and the consequent deterioration of the city. The necessities of the present situation require an occasional disturbance of some part of the pavements of our streets, and sometimes a partial interference with the movements of traffic. It is, however, the most serious example of which is to be found in the present shocking condition of our streets and thoroughfares.



Behind a Tree; History Repeated.



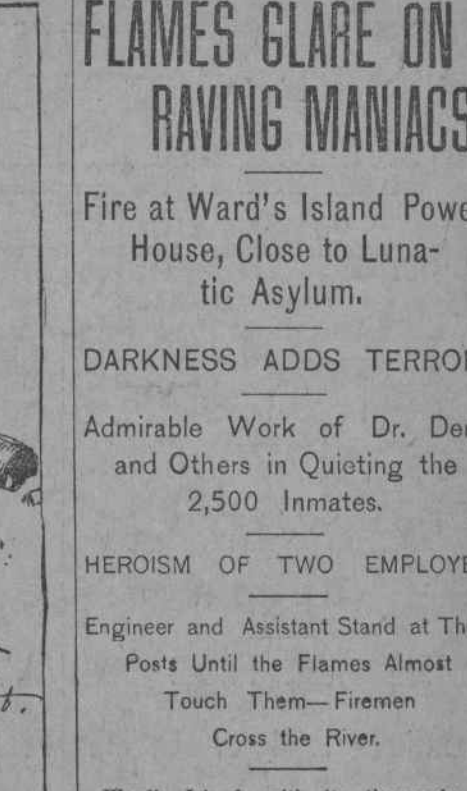
Gongratulates His Double, Bismarck.



Refuge in Fifth Ave. Earthworks.



The Pursuer on a Wrong Trail.



Fire at Ward's Island Power House, Close to Lunatic Asylum.

COLLIS, ASSAILED BY REYNOLDS, SEEKS REFUGE IN CHAOS; FINDS COMFORT IN BISMARCK'S BUST.

population of the United States at the time of the adoption of the federal Constitution, should not be required to protect against such interference with its purely domestic concerns as attempts to dictate even its harmless customs, habits and pursuits.

And yet, again and again we have been subjected to legislation converted either in ignorance of our people, and enacted as a revenge upon our politics or an assault upon our revenues.

In the Raines Law we have an example of a class of legislation utterly without public sanction. It was imposed upon our citizens against their vigorous and united protest. It has failed to secure a single one of the advantages urged in justification of its enactment. It has only succeeded, by dispensing with local supervision and control, in removing the salary revenues of the city from the hands of the responsible dealer from the open rivalry of the diskeeper. It employs the spy, and necessitates methods which can never be approved by men who believe in the Democratic theory of government. I favor its prompt repeal.

I join in the demand of your platform for "the enactment of an excise law conservative of the public morals and liberal in its provisions, that shall place its administration and revenues, so far as shall apply to this city, within the control of the municipality."

With you, I believe that one of the chief duties of the incoming administration will be to provide adequate school accommodation. I recognize the obstacles in the way. It is difficult to keep pace with the changes which effect the residence or business of the city's population. It is not with the intention of reproaching any one for the condition of affairs in this direction in the past, but simply to emphasize a determination for the future, that I express my full endorsement of your demand that every child desiring education in our schools, shall be afforded full opportunity, whatever labor or expense may thereby be involved.

In common with all citizens, I recognize that, to make effectual the advantages which all expect to flow from the enactment of the various boroughs, there must at once be devised and put in execution a system of rapid transit which will afford quick and comfortable travel between the homes and the places of business of our people in the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, bridges facilitating communication between the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens with Manhattan Island, and the expansion of the ferry system, at reduced fares, between the borough of Richmond and the rest of the city.

In your platform there is, I am pleased to see, a comprehensive appreciation shown of the directions in which the general well being, not less than the material interests, of the people ought to be promoted by the administration. It is there faithfully said: "Subject to the limitations of reasonable, but not parsimonious expenditure, the municipality should provide all needed facilities for the open-air recreation of the people. Good roads, bicycle paths, improved pavements, open-air improvements in this direction."

I deem it proper to make special mention in this relation of the pressing necessity for proper bicycle paths, and to add that, if elected, I shall make it my duty to have them constructed in the platform for dollar gas, used both as fuel and light, also commends itself to my judgment.

The proper limits of a letter of acceptance will not permit an adequate presentation of the importance to the commercial supremacy of the city of having its water front improved to the uttermost. The endeavor of other cities to wrest from us the position to which we are entitled by reason of the natural advantages which we enjoy, and the extent to which our merchants should awaken a vigilance which will furnish us with dock accommodations sufficient for our largest commercial needs.

Every Plank Approved.

I heartily approve and endorse every pledge of the platform of principles adopted by the Democratic City Convention. The great essential for municipal progress is home rule in the management of local concerns. Almost as a necessary consequence will we then enjoy that measure of personal liberty which imposes and permits of such restraint on the citizen as is necessary for the peace and protection of all.

All lawful combinations which deny to any or all of our citizens a free field of competition must be suppressed. The municipality itself should both own and control its franchises, and where new such franchises are operated under grants to corporations, a fair charge, and that only, for the service rendered or convenience furnished should be permitted.

In the prosecution of public improvements a liberal, but not extravagant, policy, as already indicated, should be adopted. The needs and claims of the various boroughs should be carefully considered and fairly determined.

M'PARLIN'S NAME STAYS ON BALLOT.

Wrote His Withdrawal Too Late to Have It Accepted.

PALMER SO INFORMS HIM.

People's Party Vote, if Possible, Will Be Thrown in Favor of Parker.

Lockport, N. Y., Oct. 19.—Lawrence J. McParlin informed a Journal man to-night that Secretary of State Palmer had advised him this morning that his withdrawal had come too late, McParlin clung to his determination not to run, as stated in this morning's Journal, and intimated that he would use his influence to throw the People's Party strength for Parker, in view of

the following dispatch to the People's Party, from New York City:

"On receipt of your letter, I forthwith withdrew my name as candidate for Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals."

Mr. McParlin explained that the letters referred to did not suggest that he withdraw, but contained a full statement of the situation. The New York men expressed full confidence in him, he said, and left the matter of withdrawal entirely with him.

He says that the only persons who actually asked him to withdraw were a large number of Democrats and a few liberal leaders, with Democratic leanings. Not one person, personally, or in any manner whatsoever, asked him to remain on the ticket. There was no principal at stake. It was simply a struggle for office. The result was his withdrawal.

This morning he received a telegram from the Secretary of State that it was too late to withdraw, as the withdrawal must be in writing, duly acknowledged and accepted, and filed with the Secretary of State at least twenty days before election.

Mr. McParlin said he did not know what course the People's party men would pursue in voting this Fall, but said that he would issue a circular to People's Party men, explaining the situation, and suggesting that the franchise of the People's Party men be cast in accordance with the situation.

Grace to Tell Where He Is At.

Ex-Mayor William R. Grace is preparing an explanatory statement of his attitude in the present campaign. "You know that I have always fought Tammany Hall," the ex-Mayor said to a friend recently, "and I am going to support the ticket at this time, why I am going to support the ticket at this time."

QUIGG'S URGENT LETTER TO MUNICIPAL CLERKS.

The following letter, signed by Chairman Quigg, is being sent out to all the clerks in the Custom House, the Post Office, and other municipal departments. A clerk in the Post Office, to whom one of the letters was addressed, expressed his surprise yesterday that Chairman Quigg should have been given the names of the postal employees, such being against the rules of the department. The letter reads:

THE REPUBLICAN CITY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
NO 1 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK.

Oct. 16, 1897.

My Dear Sir:

I have been assured that in the present political campaign your vote and influence will go to the strengthening and sustaining of the Republican ticket. I write to thank you and to ask that you will throw yourself heartily into the fight. Gen. Tracy and the whole Republican party are surely entitled to your earnest support.

The Republican party has been your staunch friend, and it confidently relies upon the belief that it will not only have your vote, but that also it will have your assistance in obtaining the votes of all your friends. I write to you in the hope that you will make it your business during the next two weeks personally to talk with your friends, urging them to support the Republican ticket.

Faithfully yours,

Leunard E. Quigg.

'SPITE' MILLIONS SHRINK IN COURT.

Miser Richardson's Son Values the Estate at Only \$500,000.

BUT OTHERS DENY IT.

Friend of the Widow Declares That the Vast Fortune Is Hidden.

The estate of the late Joseph Richardson, owner of the "Spite House" in Lexington avenue, and many millions in securities besides, has been in litigation less than six months, yet, if the affidavits filed by his son before Surrogate Fitzgerald yesterday be true, it has already dwindled from twenty or thirty millions to less than half a million of dollars.

The question, what has suddenly become of the money? is one that is interesting the lawyers and legates.

When the eccentric millionaire died last June the lowest estimate of his estate fixed it at \$5,000,000, and his nearest friends could not tell how many millions more remained to be accounted for. Yesterday George Richardson made affidavit that the main portion of his father's estate consisted of \$500,000 in securities deposited with J. H. Bissell & Co., as collateral for a loan of \$150,000. Mrs. Richardson, the widow, obtained an order from her husband for the transfer to her of these securities. But Bissell & Co. refused to honor it on the ground that Richardson was not of sound mind at the time the order was given.

There was an imposing array of talent in Surrogate Fitzgerald's court, yesterday, when the application to appoint a temporary administrator came up for hearing. Wheeler H. Peckham was there to represent George Richardson, the son, and Delia G. Richardson, a daughter, to whom had been given this fantastic name from the pages of one of her mother's favorite novels in the early part of the century.

Property All Pledged?

Representing the widow were Mayo W. Hazletine, De Lancey Nicoll and Thomas Darlington.

Mr. Peckham opposed the motion to appoint Mrs. Richardson as temporary administrator on the ground that the estate was small, and that there was little or nothing for a temporary administrator to do. He then read a statement of two affidavits made by George Richardson, which quite started the court and seemed to amuse the attorneys for the widow. The first affidavit was made by George Richardson, who claimed that the personal property left by his father was substantially all pledged to a trust for the benefit of his daughter, Delia G. Richardson, and the amount of the debt due that firm, he says, is about \$150,000, and the security pledged is collateral for a loan of \$150,000.

"There was a certain amount of securities in the bonds of Joseph Meeker & Son, of New York," the son said, "but I am informed that during his last illness Mrs. Emma J. Richardson, who was his wife, had a transfer of the above securities when Joseph Richardson was not in full possession of his mental faculties; that she were obtained by undue influence and coercion. I am emphatically opposed to the appointment of Mrs. Richardson as temporary administrator, for the reason that she is proposing to transfer the securities when Joseph Richardson was not in full possession of his mental faculties; that she were obtained by undue influence and coercion. I am emphatically opposed to the appointment of Mrs. Richardson as temporary administrator, for the reason that she is proposing to transfer the securities when Joseph Richardson was not in full possession of his mental faculties; that she were obtained by undue influence and coercion. 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